

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Amended) A method for securely communicating with a server program using a secure hypertext transfer protocol which by default uses a first port number associated therewith, said method practiced in connection with a hypertext transfer protocol which defaults to the use of a second port number associated therewith, said method comprising:

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(a) configuring the server program so that it listens for requests for secure hypertext transfer protocol sessions on the second port number rather than the first port number;

(b) receiving at the server program on the second port number a first data packet in a manner that is consistent with the secure hypertext transfer protocol, except that the request is received on the second port number rather than the first port number;

(c) outputting from the server program a response to the first data packet in a manner that is consistent with the secure hypertext transfer protocol, except that the request was

20 received on the second port number rather than the first port number;

wherein the first port number is 443 and the second port number is 80.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

30 7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) A method for operating a web server system comprising:

(a) configuring the web server system to use port 80 for communications using a protocol selected from the group consisting of: secure socket layer, secure sockets layer, SSL, secure hypertext transfer protocol, and HTTPS;

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(b) receiving at port 80 at the web server system a first data packet that is formatted in accordance with the protocol; and

(c) responding to the first data packet with a second data packet that is formatted in accordance with the protocol.

11. (Original) A web server system comprising:

(a) web server software configured to use port 80 for communications using a protocol

20 selected from the group consisting of: secure socket layer, secure sockets layer, SSL, secure hypertext transfer protocol, and HTTPS;

(b) means for receiving at port 80 at the web server system a first data packet that is formatted in accordance with the protocol; and

(c) means for responding to the first data packet with a second data packet that is formatted in accordance with the protocol.